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**The genuine representative of the 14 million South Vietnamese people,**
**The organizer of all their victories,**
**The victor on the battlefield.**

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Hardest Hit Areas: SAIGON, BIEN HOA, MY THO, DA NANG, QUANG NGAI and Costal Regions of Central Viet Nam, Western High Plateaux

**Thousands of G.I.s and Puppet Troops, Many Enemy Battalions Put Out of Action, Big Quantities of War Materials and Full Dumps Destroyed or Burnt.**

**Tens of Thousands of People Herded in Camps Set Free and Sent Back to Their Villages**

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# "The United States Has Tried to Deceive Public Opinion"

*(DRVN Foreign Ministry spokesman's Feb. 26 statement)*

IN connection with the Feb. 24, 1969 statement of the spokesman of the U.S. State Department, the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DRVN declared the following:

1 – The United States has tried to deceive public opinion, rudely calling black white. The fact is that at the Paris quadripartite Conference on Viet Nam, it has been persistingly eluding the fundamental question, namely the ending of the U.S. aggression and the total and unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam. Meanwhile, it keeps intensifying the war in South Viet Nam, piling up new and barbarous crimes against the people there. It has been bringing in more satellite troops, pressganging more puppet soldiers, and daily arresting and massacring civilians in so-called "accelerated pacification" operations. According to Western news agencies, in the past 12 days alone, U.S. B.52's indiscriminately dropped no less than 17,000 tons of bombs on heavily populated areas around Saigon. The United States also has been spraying tens of thousands of tons of toxic chemicals, and destroying crops and vegetation in South Viet Nam.

2 – The Government of the DRVN fully supports the position of the South Viet Nam NFL according to which the South Vietnamese people have the right to fight against the U.S. aggressors at any place on Vietnamese territory, and will fight on until not a single U.S. aggressor is left on Vietnamese soil. Such a right is the Vietnamese people's inalienable right to self-defence.

3 – The United States is acting as though an agreement had been reached between the DRVN and itself regarding the cessation of the U.S. bombardment in North Vietnam. In fact, it was the United States which undertook to unconditionally stop the bombardments on the entire territory of the DRVN, and it has agreed with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to hold a quadripartite conference with a view to seeking a political solution to the Viet Nam problem. With continued encroachments on the sovereignty and repeated threats to the security of the DRVN, the United States has violated its own pledge.

4 – The Vietnamese people are always on the alert, and stand ready to mete out due punishment to any new ventures by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys. U.S. setbacks will grow in proportion to its stepping up of the war, and it will have to bear full responsibility for its actions.

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THE Commission for External Relations of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation also issued on Feb. 26 a statement stressing that "infuriated by the repeated attacks of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people on U.S. and puppet strongholds, some White House officials and their war-like lackeys in the Saigon puppet administration have levelled utterly insolent allegations at the South Viet Nam armed forces and people, and have blatantly threatened to resume bombing of North Viet Nam".

The statement made clear that the U.S. imperialists' intensification of the war of aggression against Viet Nam, called for the current blows dealt at them by our Southern compatriots, which were "very necessary acts, fully justified by the sacred right to self-defence of a nation, victim of an aggression".

The statement gave this stern warning to the U.S. imperialists: "The U.S. being the aggressor, must end its aggression and withdraw unconditionally all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam. It has no right to demand that the South Vietnamese people stop fighting while more than a million U.S. expeditionary troops and troops of its flunkeys are daily perpetrating bloody crimes all over South Viet Nam. By threatening to resume bombing of North Viet Nam, the U.S. and its hirelings only expose more clearly their stubborn and war-like features and will invite stronger condemnation from world opinion."

# OFFENSIVES THAT AUGURE WELL FOR THE NEW YEAR

SINCE the night of Feb. 22 to Feb. 23, reports have been flashed from South Viet Nam over the world of a series of attacks launched by the PLAF against hundreds of military and administrative installations in almost all provinces, from Northern Quang Tri down to the Mekong Delta.

These dramatic well conducted and well co-ordinated offensives which masterly marked the beginning of the "year of the Cock" supply another eloquent proof of the complete initiative of action which the NFL has been long holding in South Viet Nam. The latter has once again shown itself capable of striking anywhere and anytime it likes and staging concerted operations on a countrywide scale. Its forces turn out to be inexhaustible and terribly efficient. This is all the more significant since the enemy has taken strict precautions for months to ward off such onsets: prolonged and repeated sweeps around cities and bases, careful screening of the urban and suburban population, searches, arrests, saturation bombing and shelling of entire areas, etc... According to Western news agencies, in 12 days giant B.52 strategic bombers dropped 17,000 tons of bombs on populated areas around Saigon. There are all indications that responsible Americans in Washington and Saigon and the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique thought they had taken every efficient preventive measure as confirmed by a host of recent official statements from these circles. AP has quoted Lewis Walt, a "Viet Nam veteran," now Assistant commander of the U.S. Marine Corps, as saying on Feb. 18, "There was no 'Tet offensive' there this year similar to the Red attacks of 1968" because "they have been unable to get one underway..." Lt. Gen. Cushman, U.S. commander of First Corps, also declared in Da Nang on Feb. 22, a few hours before the explosion of the first shells on this U.S. base. The Vietcong is like a bad boy with a rock. He can crack some windows but he can't obtain any lasting military advantage... If he does try, he will be badly hurt." This braggart of a general – who has nothing to envy in this respect Westmoreland his former direct superior and another ill-fated, braggart, estimated that, for the PLAF, "it would be a real problem to mount an attack on Da Nang", and added, "we had enough troops to chase them into the mountains and to saturate the rice paddies."

Well, these VC have chosen to go and fetch Cushman and his ilk in their bed, in Da Nang, in Saigon and in their very bases. It is not the first time – and certainly not the last, that the Yankee brasshats and their Saigon valets have been given the lie by events.

On the other hand, these attacks are but the continuation, of course on a larger scale, of the offensives which the PLAF have been all along mounting for months. They testify once more to the high standard achieved by the patriots in tactics, command, technique, preparation of operational plans, mobilisation of forces, disposition of troops in battles, etc... By their countrywide magnitude and by their timing, they show the extent of support and prestige the NFL commands, among our 14 million Southern compatriots. The patriots have been able, as the events indicate, to develop, combine the actions of different categories of troops and armed service, make good use of the forms of combat, most effective and as unpredictable as possible for the strategists crammed with "classical" military concepts and for the Pentagon's computers. So, in a few days, they inflicted very serious losses of men and materiel on the enemy, hit in their rawest spots.

Are other proofs needed to be evidence of the total failure of Abrams' so-called, "Clear-and-hold" strategy, of the "preventive operations" tactics, of clearing operations, of "the accelerated pacification" designed to extend the control of the Saigon puppet over 100% of the South Viet Nam population by the end of 1969 as claimed by Thieu, Ky and Huong? Are other arguments necessary to prove the complete irremediable bankruptcy of the US imperialists in South Viet Nam?

# PARIS CONFERENCE HOLDS 6th PLENARY SESSION

AT the 6th plenary session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam held on Feb.24, 1969, the representative of the Saigon administration slanderously charged the PLAF with "wanton bombardment" against populated areas in South Viet Nam in the course of their current attacks in South Viet Nam. He frantically sought to cover up the heavy setbacks of the U.S.-puppets. As for the U.S. representative, he declared that by "firing on the population" the PLAF harmed the work of the Conference, and that the DRVN and the NFL should "bear responsibility" for the "consequences" arising therefrom. He asserted that there existed a so-called "tacit agreement" between the DRVN and the USA on the cessation of U.S. bombardments on North Viet Nam. He attempted to deny all U.S. encroachments on the sovereignty, and threats to the security, of the DRVN, and violations of the DMZ. He even tried to shift the blame onto the Vietnamese people.

At the same session, the U.S. and Saigon representatives again perverted, as they had always done, the fundamental spirit of the Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and reiterated their proposals on the "restoration of the DMZ" and "mutual withdrawal of troops". Mr. Cabot Lodge even went to the lengths of affirming the existence of what he termed "similarities" between the positions of the various delegations.

The head of the NFL Delegation, Mr. Tran Buu Kiem, after denouncing the crimes committed by the U.S. puppet in South Viet Nam especially after the inauguration of Mr. Nixon, stressed that the South Vietnamese people could not "fold their arms in the face of this increasing ruthless aggression".

The Front's envoy recalled the Feb.26 statement of the Commission for External Relations of the NFL Central Committee. "The threats of the U.S. and its lackeys decidedly cannot shake the rock-like determination of the 14 million South Vietnamese to carry through to complete victory their sacred resistance war against U.S.-aggression for national salvation".

The NFL representative described as a "customary trick" the outcries the U.S. and its puppets raise every time the South Vietnamese people rise up and exercise their legitimate right of self-defence, whereas every time they repress and massacre the South Vietnamese people, they clap their hands. Mr. Tran Buu Kiem pointed out that the only honourable way out for the Nixon administration was to put an end to the war of aggression in Viet Nam, withdraw unconditionally all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, give up its intention to keep a puppet administration-particularly the present bellicose Thieu-Ky-Huong administration as an instrument for the achievement of U.S. neo-colonialism, and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs according to the NFL Political Program, without foreign interference. The

(Continued page 7)



# THE NORTH — GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

*Hanoi people give a rousing welcome to the genuine representatives of their 14 million Southern fellow-countrymen*

# NFL DELEGATION RECEIVES ROUSING WELCOME IN HANOI

BRIMMING with spring sap, Hanoi was jubilant. The South Viet Nam NFL delegation led by Dr. Phung Van Cung, Vice-Chairman of its Presidium, was arriving in the capital this afternoon.

The thought of embattled South Viet Nam's sufferings and sacrifices was for the time being prevailed over by the joy over the current successes of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people, the sight of flower and flowing dress and the forthcoming reunion with brothers and sisters "back from the frontline"...

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Chanh, 67 years old, a mother of five sons all in the army, had the privilege to be the first to present a bouquet to the NFL delegation. In a few words she forcefully expressed the thirst which everybody felt for reunification. "I left Hue forty-four years ago", she said, "to live in Thailand. I returned home quite a long time ago but have not yet been able to go back to Hue. Miss Kan Lich and Mrs. Huong of this delegation come from the same place as myself. So, in greeting you I feel as if I was welcoming the entire South Viet Nam."

Handing flowers to Dr. Phung Van Cung, Mrs Bui Xuan Bong, 90 years old, said: "My only wish is to see our country reunified. Nine years ago, I was honoured by President Ho Chi Minh's visit on the eve of *Tet* (Lunar new year – Ed.) I hope that our compatriots in Hue and Saigon will soon have the same honour".

A more formal and no less moving reception took place in the Government Guest House in presence of many members of the Viet Nam Workers' Party Central Committee, the National Assembly Standing Committee, the Viet Nam Fatherland Front Central Committee, representatives of political parties, mass organizations, religious bodies, the army, the diplomatic corps as well as many foreigners visiting the DRVN.

"It is in these minutes of deep emotion," said Vice Premier Nguyen Duy Trinh in his welcome address, "that we fully realize the depth of the feelings which bind the North to the South. Viet Nam is one country, the Vietnamese are one nation. Rivers may dry up, mountains may erode, but this truth will never change".

In his reply, Dr Phung Van Cung underlined the ties which link the fourteen million South Vietnamese to their seventeen million North Vietnamese kith and kin and to President Ho Chi Minh, beloved leader of the entire nation. "The fourteen million Southerners and the NFL Central Committee," he said, "have entrusted our delegation with the mission of conveying to President Ho Chi Minh and the seventeen million Northern fellow-countrymen the expression of their firm will, their unshakable unity, their determination to fight and to win, and their pledge to fulfil the sacred task of liberating the South, defending the North, and achieving ultimate peaceful reunification of the country." Then he added, "so long as the United States persists in its aggression against South Viet Nam, the South Vietnamese will continue to fight until the Yankees quit and the puppet topple, so that the country is completely independent and free, a truly peaceful and happy life may be built and North and South reunited under the same roof."

*Women's International Day (March 8)*

# WOMEN IN VIETNAMESE SOCIETY

ACCORDING to most recent statistics, 14.5 % of the deputies to the National Assembly are women, while women make up 26.93% in the provincial People's Councils, 45.7% in the district People's Councils, and 47.42% in the village People's Councils.

In industry, agriculture and State-run commerce, the proportion runs to 32.5%. In particular, 21.7% of the engineers in these three branches of activity are female.

In the management of agricultural co-operatives, women account for 3.3% of the chairmen, 30% of the vice-chairmen, 18.3% of the members of the management committees and 0.55% of the team leaders.

Statistics also show that 101,838 women are attending complementary courses specially opened for them, 28 women have been chosen as "Labour Heroines". A unit is composed exclusively of heroines and 8 squads of the people's militia have been recognized "Determined to Win" units (an honour conferred on those units which have fulfilled a number of norms set for the fighting training and production).

At present, the Vietnamese women not only are capable of replacing men in production, the fighting and family affairs, but also take part in the administration of the State, in economic management, in the building of a new life and in the other activities that have contributed to the brilliant achievements of the Vietnamese people in all spheres of activity. Facts have confirmed the revolutionary capacities of the Vietnamese women in all respects. Reality has also proved that in the socialist regime women are liberated not only politically, economically and socially but also, and most important of all, ideologically. In our regime many women workers have become technicians, simple peasant women head of agricultural co-operatives, and many nurses, doctors of medicine, etc.

# Progress Report on Mothers and Children's Welfare

RECENTLY a Conference to report progress on the welfare of mothers and children in 1968, a conference on Model Baby-Farmers in the North were held in Hanoi.

Premier Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Mothers and Children's welfare Committee attended the three meetings. Underlying the paramount significance and importance of health service for the people in general and of the mothers and children's welfare in particular in the whole revolutionary work, the Premier drew once again the attentique of the responsible authorities at various levels to this task in the coming years.

Commending the outstanding achievements of baby farmers in recent years in the North, the Prime Minister emphasized the necessity to devote all efforts to the building of good crèches, training and improvement of the professional standards of as many model baby-farmers as possible to enable parents to adequately attend to social and production work and take part in the fight against U.S. aggression and socialist construction.

# WELCOME TO THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION DELEGATION VISITING NORTH VIET NAM !

## BIOGRAPHY OF Dr. PHUNG VAN CUNG

DR. Phung Van Cung, Head of the delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation visiting North Viet Nam, was born in 1909 in Vinh Long province, South Viet Nam. Graduated from the Hanoi Medical College, he headed the medical service of Rach Gia and Chau Doc provinces, and later was appointed resident doctor at the Phu Kien Hospital in Cho Lon.

During the war of resistance against the French colonialists, he took part in the activities of patriotic organizations for which he won the esteem of the people.

After the conclusion of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, as a patriotic intellectual, he struggled actively against the Ngo Dinh Diem administration's plot to get South Vietnamese intellectuals to join in the repression of the patriotic movement of the people. Together with his colleagues, Dr. Phung Van Cung opposed all the vile attempts of the US-Diem clique to enlist the medical and intellectual circles in South Viet Nam in their "Denounce Communists" campaign.

In 1960 together with other patriots in South Viet Nam he militated for the founding of the National Front for Liberation. At the First Congress of the NFL in 1962 he was elected Vice-President of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Front.

Dr. Phung Van Cung is concurrently President of the South Viet Nam Peace Committee and President of the South Viet Nam Liberation Red Cross Society.

## "The Fight Against U.S. Aggression Is A Sacred Fight of the Vietnamese Nation, the Fight of our Time"

*(Speech of Premier PHAM VAN DONG at the reception given by the Viet Nam Workers' Party CC, the DRVN Government and the Viet Nam Fatherland Front CC, on February 28, 1969 in honour of the South Viet Nam NFL Delegation).*

Dear Dr. Phung Van Cung and friends in the Delegation,

Dear comrades and friends in the diplomatic corps,

Dear comrades and friends,

Today, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, I extend my heartfelt welcome to the delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation led by Dr. Phung Van Cung, which is visiting the North, bringing with it the warmth of the most profound feelings, the echoes of the resounding victories, and the strength of the boundless confidence of our Southern people to their seventeen million fellow-countrymen in socialist North Viet Nam, the revolutionary base of the whole country.

In welcoming the Front's delegation, we also welcome Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho and other leaders of the National Front for Liberation, the genuine representative of the fourteen million South Vietnamese people, the organizer of all their victories over the past ten years, the victor on the battlefield who is having the decisive say on South Viet Nam at the current Paris conference.

On this occasion, we send our greetings to Lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao and other leaders of the Viet Nam Alliance for National Democratic and Peace Forces and other patriotic forces who are uniting around the Front and shouldering their glorious responsibility in the nation's great resistance to U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

In greeting the Front's delegation, we also show you here and to all our fourteen million Southern compatriots and fighters the brotherly love of President Ho Chi Minh and the seventeen million Northerners, and our pride in the so clever and valiant heroes of our nation and our time. In hailing the Front's delegation, we hail the splendid successes of the South in the past years, especially those won throughout 1968 beginning with the general offensives and widespread uprisings in the Mau Than Tet which played an important part in forcing the U.S. aggressors to unconditionally stop their bombardments in the North; acclaim the brilliant exploits recorded in the current drive of the large-scale and widespread offensives and uprisings launched in a series of cities, provincial towns and military headquarters of the U.S. and puppets.

At a time when in South Viet Nam, the forefront of our people's war of resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, and of the struggle of all the peace- and freedom-loving peoples in the world against the bellicose and aggressive U.S. imperialists, the people's struggle from country to town, from the mountains to the plains, and everywhere in the South, the Brass Wall of the Fatherland, is shaking to its foundations the position of the aggressors and the traitors, and making a great stir among public opinion in the United States and the world, at a time when our arduous struggle is winning rousing victories throughout South Viet Nam, the visit of a delegation of the Front to the North and our get-together today give a vivid picture of the militant solidarity and unshakable unity of the Viet Nam nation as a whole. The thirty one million Vietnamese are single-mindedly determined to stand shoulder to shoulder, pool their efforts and wisdom to fight and to win, resolved to intensify and keep up their fight on the military, political and diplomatic fronts to win ever greater victories and to become ever stronger until not a U.S. aggressor is left in our beloved country, until the US imperialists stop their criminal war of aggression in South Viet Nam and agree to withdraw unconditionally all U.S. and satellite troops from there, and let the South Vietnamese with the Political Program on the Front. The fight of the Vietnamese nation is a sacred fight for genuine peace and real independence, a fight which is radiant with justice and enjoys the ever stronger sympathy and support from the people of the fraternal socialist countries and other countries in the world including the progressive people in the United States as well. It is also the fight of our time, a fight which bears a historical significance for our nation and a deep and far-reaching significance for the world. The Vietnamese people are resolved to carry this protracted, hard but surely victorious fight through to complete victory, in our own interests and the interests of the revolutionary cause of the world people.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors will certainly lose!

The Vietnamese people will certainly win!

Let us drink to:

— More splendid feats of the South Viet Nam fighters and people and of the entire Vietnamese people;

— The health and longevity of President Ho Chi Minh,

— The health of Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho and other leaders of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation;

— The health of Dr. Phung Van Cung and other members of the NFL delegation;

— The health of Vice-President Ton Duc Thang and other Party and State leaders;

— The health of our comrades and friends in the diplomatic corps.

— The health to all comrades and friends here present.

## The South Vietnamese People Are Determined to Achieve Their Sacred Goals at All Costs

*(Reply speech of Dr. Phung Van Cung, Head of the South Viet NFL delegation)*

*Esteemed Vice President Ton Duc Thang,*

*Esteemed Prime Minister Pham Van Dong,*

*Ladies and gentlemen,*

*Dear friends,*

On behalf of the fourteen million South Vietnamese, all the men and officers of the People's Liberation Armed Forces, the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and President Nguyen Huu Tho, the Delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation wishes to convey to President Ho Chi Minh, the venerated leader of the whole nation, to Vice-President Ton Duc Thang, the other leaders of the State, the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, the political parties, the mass organizations and the seventeen million North Viet namese kith-and-kin our warmest greetings and the expressions of the deepest gratitude of all the Southern fellow-country- men and fighters on the great front-line of the heroic Viet Nam Fatherland.

This Delegation would like also to extend to the members of the Diplomatic Corps its greetings of solidarity and friendship.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear friends,

The resistance war of the Southern people against American aggression for national salvation is progressing by leaps and bonds. The general offensives and uprisings launched since last *Mau Than* spring have brought about a dramatic change in the relation of forces between the enemy and ourselves extremely favourable to us and utterly unfavourable to him. In the flush of these glorious victories, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people are determined to fight on perseveringly until complete victory.

The South Viet Nam people and National Front for Liberation are fully aware that the resounding successes recorded by the Southern armed forces and people in the past years and this spring like the dismal setbacks of the Americans and the puppets, have been the outcome of the protracted, arduous but unusually valiant struggle of the armed forces and people of the whole Viet Nam, the fruits of the common efforts of the thirty-one million Vietnamese throughout the country, and of the considerable comprehensive support and assistance given by the peoples of the neighbouring Indochinese countries, the fraternal countries, the friends the world over, including the U.S. progressive people in the United States.

The South Viet Nam people compatriots highly appreciate the extraordinary zeal, the lofty sacrifices and the gallant fighting of their Northern kith-and-kin who have been fulfilling their sacred task as great rear base towards the great front-line with an unshakeable sense of purpose.

Daily, hourly, the South Vietnamese people turn their thoughts to President Ho Chi Minh, rejoice at every achievment of the Northern armed forces and people, burning with indignation at American bombing and strafing against a half of their dear Fatherland, vowing to duly punish the Yankee aggressors, liberate the South, defend the North and achieve ultimate peaceful reunification of their country.

On behalf of the Southern compatriots and the Front Central Committee, we wish to voice our boundless gratitude towards President Ho Chi Minh, the National Assembly and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Viet Nam Fatherland Front and our kindred Northerners.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear friends,

Though their final defeat is left in no doubt, the U.S. imperialists still continue obdurate and perfidious on the South Viet Nam battlefield and in the Paris Conference on Viet Nam as well. They are stepping up their aggressive war in South Viet Nam committing countless crimes against the people there, insolently demanding that the South Vietnamese stop fighting, and threatening to resume their bombing of the North.

The Vietnamese people deeply cherish peace, but it must be peace in independence and freedom. If the United States really wants a reasonable political solution to the South Viet Nam problem, it must take into consideration the five points of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the four points of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, end its aggression, unconditionally withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and let the South Viet Nam people settle themselves their own affairs in accordance with the Political Program of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation without U.S. interference.

The level of U.S. stubbornness and aggression will only be matched by the level of their failure.

Under the invincible banner of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, with the devoted assistance of their seventeen million Northern fellow-countrymen and friends the world over, the South Vietnamese are determined to achieve their sacred goals at all costs: to liberate the South, defend the North, build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South, and achieve the ultimate peaceful reunification of the country.

In this atmosphere of elation and confidence may I propose a toast:

To the tremendous achievement of the armed forces and people of the whole Viet Nam!

To the great successes in production and combat of our Northern kith and kin!

To the health of President Ho Chi Minh!

To the health of Vice-President Ton Duc Thang!

To the health of Comrade Le Duan!

To the health of President of the National Assembly Truong Chinh!

To the health of Prime Minister Pham Van Dong!

To the health of ladies, gentlemen and comrades here present!

## COMPOSITION OF SOUTH VIET NAM NFL DELEGATION VISITING NORTH VIET NAM

The Delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation visiting North Viet Nam at the invitation of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, is composed of the following personalities:

— Dr. **Phung Van Cung**, Vice-President of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee, President of the South Viet Nam Peace Committee and President of the South Viet Nam Liberation Red Cross.

— Superior **Thich Thien Hoa**, Representative of the South Viet Nam Patriotic Buddhists, Member of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee, Chairman of the Committee to Denounce War Crimes Committed by the U.S. Imperialists and their Henchmen in South Viet Nam, Vice-Chairman of the South Viet Nam Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

— Mr. **Nguyen Van Ngoi**, Chief Priest of the Tien Thien sect of the Cao Dai religion, Member of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee, Chairman of the Sick and Wounded PLAF Armymen's Council.

— **Joseph Marie Ho Tuc Ba**, Catechist, Representative of the South Viet Nam Devout and Patriotic Catholics, Member of the NFL Central Committee, Member of the South Viet Nam Peace Committee.

— **Mme Mi Doanh**, Vice-President of the Movement for the Autonomy of the High Plateaus People, Vice-President of the South Viet Nam Liberation Women's Union, Member of the High-Plateaux NFL Committee.

— **Mme Nguyen Thi Rao**, Member of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam Liberation Women's Union, Member of the Standing Committee of the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh Liberation Women's Union.

— **Miss Kan Lich**, of the Pa Co nationality, Phong Dien district, Thua Thien province, Heroine of the South Viet Nam PLAF.

— **Dang Van Dau**, of Thu Dau Mot province, Nam Bo (South Viet Nam proper-Ed.), Hero of the South Viet Nam PLAF.

— **Huynh Thuc Ba**, of Quang Nam province, Central Trung Bo (Central Viet Nam—Ed.), Hero of the South Viet Nam PLAF.

— **Mme Truong Thi Chuoc**, member of the Executive Committee of the Central Trung Bo, Liberation Women's Union, Model Fighter of Central Trung Bo.

— **Mme Nguyen Thi Huong**, Head of the Leading Insurrectional Committee of Dong Ba Precinct, Hue city.

— **Phan Van Gung**, "Valiant anti-U.S. fighter" and "Determined to Win Fighter" of Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh area."

## NFL WIELDS REAL STATE POWER

ONE year after the general offensives and simultaneous uprisings, a revolutionary state power has been taking shape in South Viet Nam under the NFL banner with administrative structures set up from the central to the grassroots levels. The French paper *La Nation* of December 2, 1968 estimated that in July 1968 "Viet Cong political committees" had been returned through popular elections in two-thirds of South Viet Nam. Earlier, on November 18, 1968, an *AFP* despatch from Saigon also disclosed that U.S. officials in South Viet Nam themselves admitted that the NFL had established in many hamlets, villages and towns "revolutionary people's committees" ready to take the place of the Saigon authorities. "Thus, an elected state power actually co-exists with the Saigon administration, such is the conclusion of those U.S. officials.

THE stirring events of *Tet* 1968 completely frustrated all the efforts of the U.S. neo-colonialists since the Ngo Dinh Diem rule: "strategic hamlet plan", "pacification plan", etc. By one stroke the puppet administrative apparatus was wiped off in vast rural areas, in the plains as well as in the mountains. All the enemy attempts to revive it in 1968 proved utterly vain.

Early in 1968, of the 30,000 inhabitants of Quang Tri and Thua Thien provinces including Hue city, 40,000 were freed from imperialist yoke. A Liberation people's committee at provincial level, the first of its kind in South Viet Nam, came into being in the midst of the offensives and uprisings, ushering in a new era in the political life of the broad masses of South Viet Nam.

Following village elections, district people's committees were chosen throughout South Viet Nam. After the example of Quang Tri, Thua Thien and Hue, provincial committees were also elected in Gia Lai, Quang Nam, Da Nang, Ca Mau, My Tho, Kien Phong provinces.

A power of the people, by the people and for the people has been established and consolidated. It was the result of long years of bloody struggle against a vicious enemy who left no stone unturned to impose upon the fourteen million South Vietnamese a regime of oppression and terror which was to bring them servitude, poverty and death

THE writ of the NFL does not only run in what is called liberated zone which covers three fourths of the land. It extends even to the areas known to be under Saigon control. According to Beverly Deepe of *The Christian Science Monitor*, "in the (puppet-Ed.) government areas, seventy per cent of the government's hamlet and village officials are considered to be operating in exile, refusing to live in their assigned areas particularly at night."

Even in the towns, the authority of the NFL makes itself felt. In *The Minority of One* of October 1968, Larry L. Davis and Al Adams substantiated this fact with the following account by Hugh Mulligan, an *AP* correspondent, of an incident at Saigon's Phu Tho race course:

"One Sunday, I went to the track with some helicopter pilots in civilian clothes. We ventured out to the paddock. The track security officer, an owl-eyed man with a big panama hat and the unmistakable bulge of his revolver in his coat pocket approached us with alarm:

"Don't come out here again" he admonished. "Not safe for Americans. Not secure. Viet Cong all over."

In his book on Viet Nam published in New York in March 1968, Dr. Benjamin Spock related that "according to Drew Pearson, State Secretary Dean Rusk had recognized before the Senate Committee of Foreign Relations that even U.S. oil companies paid taxes to the NFL so that their lorries might go through Viet Cong territory".

AT present, the people's power established by the NFL in South Viet Nam is seeing to a double task: fight the aggressors and build a new life in accordance with the NFL programme for an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam. The image that the visitor keeps from the liberated areas is one of youths enthusiastically going to the front coupled with one of vast ricefields in which a "harvest for our victory over the Yankees" is reaped. The Liberation people's committees themselves symbolize the unity of all social strata resolved to defeat U.S. aggression and build a new South Viet Nam. They include young and old people, men and women often from different religions and ethnic groups and from various walks of life: peasants, workers, intellectuals, and even representatives of the national bourgeoisie. What is remarkable is that women constitute forty per cent of the members.

Overcoming innumerable difficulties caused by the enemy mop-ups and B-52 bombings, the South Vietnamese people led by Liberation people's committees are striving to increase their production so as to meet the requirements of the front and to improve their living standard. In this book mentioned above, Dr. Benjamin Spock remarks that the NFL agrarian reform is "straight forward: to the tilless belongs the soil. If a man and his family work a certain piece of land, it belongs to them." It is this agrarian reform which gives a new impetus to agricultural production.

The well-known pediatrician also notices that "the schools

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**4th Anniversary of Indochinese People's Conference (Mach 1, 1969)**

# INDOCHINA WILL WIN IN HER ANTI-U.S. AGGRESSION RESISTANCE

FOUR years ago, the US imperialists started their "limited" war in South Viet Nam and their war of destruction in North Viet Nam, intensified their "special war" and air raids in Laos, stepped up their provocations against Cambodia and violations of her territory. It was at that moment when the struggle of the Indochinese peoples entered a new and difficult stage that the Indochinese Peoples' Conference was convened at the initiative of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, marking an extremely important strengthening of the militant solidarity and friendship among the Vietnamese, Khmer and Laotian peoples.

Since then, the three peoples have won very substantial successes. The hard blows of the South Vietnamese people at the US imperialist aggressors especially since last year's Tet, have driven these onto the defensive and into passivity. North Viet Nam has defeated the US war of destruction. The Vietnamese people as a whole have achieved victories of strategic significance: they have forced the US into an unconditional halt of the bombardments on the whole territory of North Viet Nam and acceptance of a quadripartite conference in Paris with the DRVN and South Viet Nam NFL to seek a political solution to the South Viet Nam problem.

Under the leadership of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, the heroic Khmer people have also been credited with brilliant achievements; they have foiled all attempted threats, all provocative attacks and all acts of sabotage of the US imperialists and their valets, in the defence of their national independence and sovereignty and in their effort to carry on their national contruction.

Under the leadership of the Laotian Patriotic Front headed by Prince Souphanouvong, the heroic Laotian people have wiped out a considerable amount of the enemy man-power, shot down or destroyed on the ground more than 1,000 U.S. aircraft and successfully built and consolidated the liberated zone.

The accomplishments of each Indochinese people are those of all the three peoples, and the results of their solidarity in the fighting. Over the past four years, the peoples of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos have further strengthened their solidarity, supported and encouraged one another in the struggle against the common enemy.

The great strength of the 40 million Indochinese united in combat has been developing vigorously. As Head of State Norodom Sihanouk has put it, "the solidarity of the Indochinese peoples is a very vivid reality and has shown its effectiveness in their resistance to U.S. ambitions".

The Vietnamese people express their sincere gratitude to Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, the Royal Government of Cambodia and the brotherly Khmer people for having always encouraged and strongly supported them in their fight against U.S. aggression for national salvation.

They heartily thank the Laotian Patriotic Front and the brotherly Laotian people for having given them an effective assistance in the form of destruction of enemy manpower and U.S. aircraft in Laos.

The Vietnamese, Khmer and Laotian people have thus frustrated the U.S. attempt to conquer the Indochinese countries by force. However, the U.S. imperialists have not yet given up their aggressive design and are still trying to achieve their neo-colonialist scheme in Indochina.

At the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, they still persist in eluding the discussion of the fundamental problems, namely, an end to their aggression and the total and unconditional withdrawal of U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam. Meanwhile, in South Viet Nam, they keep intensifying their aggressive war, conducting military operations and B.52 bombing raids and piling up crimes against the people.

Such a behaviour clearly shows their intention to prolong the occupation of South Viet Nam, maintain the Saigon puppet administration so as to make South Viet Nam a new-type colony of the U.S. and perpetuate the partition of Viet Nam. In North Viet Nam, they continue encroaching upon the sovereignty, and threatening the security, of the DRVN and, recently, have even arrogantly threatened to "resume the bombing".

In Laos, the U.S. imperialists are pursuing their "special war". They are stepping up their air raids against the liberated areas, reinforcing the puppet army, building the Mekong line and relying on Thai reactionaries to prolong the war of aggression.

With regard to Cambodia, the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys obstinately refuse to recognize her territorial integrity within her present borders; they maintain their hostile policy towards her independence and neutrality; they have been mounting series of provocative attacks, committing violations of Cambodian territory and carrying out acts of terror against the Khmer people in the borderlands.

To strengthen the solidarity of the Indochinese peoples and give a strong impulse to their struggle against U.S. imperialism for independence and freedom so as to bring this struggle to complete victory, such is the imperative requirement of the present situation, requirement which is consistent with the common aspirations of the three peoples.

The Vietnamese people are unreservedly behind the Khmer people in their resolute struggle to defend their sacred national rights, and to safeguard independence, sovereignty, peace, neutrality and territorial integrity within the present borders of their country. They approve and respect the policy of peace and neutrality of the Kingdom of Cambodia and endeavour to contribute to the strengthening of neighbourly relations, mutual trust and lasting cooperation between the two peoples on the basis of the five principles of peaceful co-existence, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

The Vietnamese people wholeheartedly support the Laotian Patriotic Front's demand that the U.S. aggressors immediately stop the bombing of the liberated zone, withdraw all military personnel, armaments and other war material of the U.S. and its satellites from Laos and let the Laotians settle their own affairs themselves on the basis of the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos and with one regard to the realities there.

*ON the occasion of the 4th anniversary of the Indochinese People's Conference, Ton Duc Thang, President of the Presidium of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front CC, has sent congratulatory messages to Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and Prince Souphanouvong.*

*A grand commemorative meeting was held in Hanoi, at which Prof. Hoang Minh Giam, Vice-President of the Viet Nam Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity and head of the Committee Delegation to the Indoohinese Peoples' Conference, took the floor.*

# GFR COMMUNIST LEADERS VISIT THE DRVN

AT the invitation of the Central committee of the Viet Nam Workers'-Party (VNWP) a delegation of Communist leaders of the German Federal Republic led by Willy Mohn, member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the German Communist Party, paid a friendship visit to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam from February 10 to 20,1969.

It was warmly welcomed by the Vietnamese people.

A delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party headed by Truong Chinh, member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, and the delegation of Communist leaders of the GFR held talks in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship.

A joint communiqué was made public at the end of the conversations:

"The delegation of Communist leaders of the GFR expresses its admiration for the heroic Vietnamese people who have been inflicting defeats on the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the most powerful of the imperialist, the international gendarme, the number one enemy of mankind. This tremendous achievement of the Vietnamese people sets a shining example for all the oppressed peoples in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism. It also represents an important contribution of the VNWP and the Vietnamese people to the common struggle of the world peoples for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. For this reason, it is a noble internationalist duty of all Communist and Workers' Parties and the people throughout the world to make all-out efforts to help bring promptly to total victory the just fight of the Vietnamese people against U.S. imperialism.

"On behalf of the Communists, the progressive forces of the working class and the entire people of the GFR, the delegation of Communist leaders of the GFR declares its total support for the war of resistance of the Vietnamese people against U.S. aggression for national salvation. It unreservedly approves the four points of the DRVN and the Political Program and five points of the South Viet Nam NFL concerning a political solution to the South Viet Nam problem. It wholeheartedly backs the just position and goodwill attitude of the DRVN. Government and the South Viet Nam NFL at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam(...)

"On behalf of the Vietnamese Communists, working class and people, the delegation of the VNWP expresses its sincere gratitude to the Communists, working class, all strata of the people, all progressive organizations and personalities of West Germany for their warm support and assistance to the Vietnamese people's resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation(...)

"The delegation of the VNWP strongly condemns the ultrareactionary policy of the West German ruling circles which, on the one hand, are doing their best to encourage revanchism and neo-nazism, and on the other, are increasing the exploitation of the workers, repressing the democratic forces, maintaining the ban on the German Communist Party. The "basic emergency law" they recently promulgated more particularly aimed at suppressing all the democratic liberties of the West German people. The expansionist and aggressive policy of the West German monopoly capital and its government has been aided and abetted by U.S. imperialism.

"The delegation of the VNWP holds that the preparation by the Government of the GFR for the presidential election in West Berlin is a serious provocation, which grossly violates the agreements between the allies after World War Two on the statute of West Berlin — a city which does not belong to the GFR. The Vietnamese people take the view that the West German authorities must bear full responsibility for the consequences arising from such a move.

"The visit of the delegation of Communist leaders of the GFR has ended successfully. It is a valuable contribution to the strengthening of the solidarity and friendship between the two peoples and between the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the communists of the GFR on the basis of Marxism — Leninism and proletarian internationalism. It also gives a stimulus to the common struggle of the working class and peoples in the world for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism."



# PLAF Well Co-ordinated...

(Continued from page 8)

capitals, 7 HQs (3 division HQs) many CPs, airfields logistic bases attacked on Feb.23, 24 and 25. At least 3 American battalions were wiped out and many companies and 2 puppet para battalions thinned.

DA NANG, AND QUANG NGAI AREAS, AND COASTAL PLAINS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH CENTRAL VIET NAM

On Feb. 23 and 24, the PLAF artillery and infantry mounted actions against the enemy in **Da Nang** and periphery (airfields, logistic bases naval bases, enterprises). Big fires broke out destroying important installations.

In **Quang Nam** province, **Hoi An** provincial capital, 24 km south, southeast of Da Nang and at least 6 district capitals and sub-sector, CPs were raided on Feb. 23.

15 km south southwest of Da Nang, on Feb. 23, the PLAF partially destroyed the CP of U.S. Marine Regiment 5 at **An Hoa**, wiping out an artillery company, destroying 6 175 mm and 105mm cannons. In another locality, they put out of action a U.S. artillery battalion, destroying 10 155mm and 105mm cannons; pumped shells into An Hoa airfield and blasted to pieces many aircraft.

In **Que Son** region, the NFL flag was hoisted on the *HQ of U.S. Light Infantry, Brigade* 196 incorporated in "Americal" Division, after a 10-minute engagement about one hundred American officers and technicians were killed or wounded, many installations including the signal centre and radar destroyed.

Further south, in **Quang Tin** province, PLAF coups also proved very fruitful. Enemy positions in the town and around **Tam Ky** provincial capital as well as many district capitals and sub-sector CPs were violently bombarded by the PLAF who also attacked the HQ of "Americal" Division and Chu Lai base nearby and another airfield.

Meanwhile, near **Chu Lai** 25 barracks, the signal centre and 4 tanks of *U.S. Light Infantry Brigade* 198 were reduced to rubble. As in the *HQ of U.S. Brigade* 196 two big NFL flags were flown over that position.

In **Quang Ngai** province, another brigade of "Americal" division also suffered heavy damage: *Brigade* 11 *HQ* wiped out on February at Thi Binh, 96Km south southeast of Da Nang with 150 casualties, and 3 other battalion CPs of that brigade in the same province decimated.

Together with other military and administrative organs the *HQ of puppet Infantry Division* 2, in Quang Ngai town was overrun on the night of Feb. 22. The airfield in the town and *CP of Regiment* 4, Infantry Division 2 were bombarded. The CPs of a battalion, and an armoured squadron and three other positions of the same division also sustained heavy losses. The following days, the PLAF beat off all enemy counter-attacks, taking an enemy toll of 250. Nearly all district capitals in the province came under PLAF fire.

Thus, all the provincial capitals and many district capitals in this region were hit, all big enemy units suffered heavy losses, chiefly their commands.

In other coastal provinces of **Central and South Central Viet Nam, Quy Nhon** and **Phan Rang** provincial capitals and a dozen district capitals (especially in **Binh Dinh** province) were the targets of PLAF onslaughts.

The airfields at **Nha Trang, Cam Ranh** and **Phan Rang** were bombarded and the logistic base and depots at Cam Ranh were on fire for hours running.

The PLAF won a big victory on Feb. 22 near **Phan Thiet**, 152 km east northeast of Saigon when they completely overran the rear base of Battalion 3, Regiment 506, U.S. para Division 101: 300 GIs killed or wounded, 10 choppers destroyed, many military vehicles and ammunition dumps burnt. Then intercepting rescue parties 35 km from Phan Thiet town, they put out of action 300 puppet soldiers, destroyed 35 vehicles and downed one helicopter.

WESTERN HIGH PLATEAUX

SINCE Feb.23, about thirty PLAF actions have been reported, In **Kontum** province, the sector CP and strategic hamlets in the provincial capital were assaulted. Further north, the PLAF launched an attack on **Dak To** airfield, and U.S. logistic depots at **Tan Canh** where 15 big arms and ammunition dumps and 3 fuel tanks were destroyed by fires triggered by PLAF shellings. The same day, the patriotic forces took the **Con Ho Rinh** position and badly mauled the enemy garrisons and rescue parties. The U.S. positions in **Plei Can** region west of Tan Canh were also hit.

On February 25, the PLAF artillery pounded Kontum airfield and the puppet administrative and military organs in the town.

Further South, on Feb. 23, in **Pleiku** town, the *HQ of Second Army* corps was stormed as well as *CP of Group* 2 of the puppet rangers and of Gia Lai military sector and US logistic depots. Raids were also mounted against administrative offices, and the provincial police station. Two airfields in the town were also bombarded.

West-southwest of Pleiku, puppet ranger camp at **Duc Co** was also assaulted. On the section of Highway 19 between Pleiku and the sea, in an ambush laid on Feb. 22 and 23, PLAF destroyed 11 tanks and armoured cars.

The airfield, CP of *puppet Regiment* 45 *and rangers camp* at **Ban Me Thuot** and an artillery unit were attacked on February 23. The same day, the PLAF slammed shells on 2 sub-sector CPs and wiped out a puppet company 13 Km west of the provincial capital.

In **Gia Nghia** town, the administrative offices, a district capital and the strategic hamlets around two other chief towns were stormed on Feb. 23.

# The NFL.

(Continued from page 5)

established by the NFL all over South Viet Nam are free of charge, and that a bright Vietnamese child will go as far as his intelligence and industriousness can carry him." As a matter of fact, illiteracy has virtually been wiped out. Since 1965, eighty-five per cent of school-age children have been able to attend school.

Outstanding progress has been also achieved in the field of health, letters, arts, etc.

It is all these gains of the revolution, with which the NFL is credited, that bind every man and woman in South Viet Nam to the people's power, for the defence of which they are ready to make every sacrifice.

OTHER REGIONS

SOUTH of the DMZ was constantly violated by the enemy; on the night of Feb. 24 an American camp at **Dong Tien**, 18 km north northeast of former "Khe Sanh" base, was overrun: 350 G.I.s killed or wounded and 8 big guns and mortars destroyed.

Meanwhile, 9 km further west, an American company was put out of action, losing 150 Leathernecks killed or wounded. Pounding **Tan Lam** US base (Rockpile) on Feb. 24 and 25, the patriotic forces destroyed 3 heavy guns and virtually wiped out an American company called out from Tan Lam.

35 Km west-northwest of **Hue**, on Feb. 23 the PLAF put out of action 2 U.S. companies, causing over 200 enemy casualties and destroying 5 big guns and mortars The day before, in **Cà Ca Va** hill where one week earlier they had suffered heavy losses, the American aggressors had 150 men killed and wounded and 6 choppers downed.

Many enemy positions around Hue were bombarded by the PLAF on Feb. 23.

Finally, **in the Mekong delta**, the following news has been received from various provinces:

In the Plain of Reeds, the PLAF attacked 2 provincial capitals of **Moc Hoa** and **Cao Lanh** and several sub-sector CPs. Enemy losses in **Kien Tuong** province (Moc Hoa) amounted to 600 casualties.

In **Ben Tre** province, the enemy was assailed in the provincial capital, airfield, the U.S. officers' quarters as well as in 5 district capitals.

**Vinh Long** and **Tra Vinh** towns were also shelled on Feb. 23. In the PLAF raids on 2 districts in Tra Vinh province, the aggressors and their quislings took 100 casualties.

West of Nam Bo, the **Binh Thuy** airfield near **Can Tho** and many positions around it were the targets of PLAF heavy artillery shelling. Near the Cambodian border, **Chau Doc** town and at least 3 district capitals were also attacked as well as the airfield in the town. In the centre of **Ca Mau** peninsula, **Vi Thanh** provincial capital was also stormed on Feb. 23. In the Gulf of Thailand, Rach Gia provincial capital and 5 sub-sector CPs came under PLAF attack the same day.

# Paris Conference...

(Continued from page 2)

basis for the settlement of the South Viet Nam issue is the five-point statement of Nov.3, 1968 of the NFL, he said.

Minister of State Xuan Thuy, head of the DRVN Government Delegation, pointed out that the Paris Conference had not made any progress after five sessions. The responsibility for this lies with the U.S. delegation which has deliberately been trying to dissociate military questions from political questions and put forward what it called "concrete proposals" of a military character, to back the discussion of the origin of the war of aggression waged by the U.S.

The DRVN chief negotiator declared: "It is the U.S. that has sabotaged the whole set of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam. Now that it can no longer ignore these agreements, it tries to wreck their spirit and content, overlooking their basic principles and using a few short-term clauses on the cessation of hostilities as the 'essentials' to serve its own aggressive design. This is no sign of good will. This is not to find 'similarities'. This, one must say bluntly, is pure deception".

The DRVN envoy denounced U.S. hostile acts against the sovereignty and security of North Viet Nam and intensification of the U.S. aggressive war in South Viet Nam. Commenting on the Nixon administration's policy of "de-Americanizing" the Viet Nam war, he said that it was a sheer illusion. As over 600,000 U.S. and satellite troops directly committed in the U.S. war of aggression have failed to daunt the South Vietnamese people, how can the decaying puppet administration and army take the place of the U.S. and shoulder the burden of the war? "We therefore believe that it is now time that the present U.S. authorities took more realistic views and actions" Mr. Xuan Thuy said.

Quoting the Feb. 26 statement of the spokesman of the DRVN Foreign Ministry, the North Vietnamese plenipotentiary flatly refuted the arguments advanced by the delegates of the U.S. and the Saigon administration to misrepresent the position of the DRVN government concerning the recent PLAF attacks in South Viet Nam. He also dismissed the allegations of the spokesman of the U.S. State Department about an "agreement" between the DRVN and the U.S. on the "conditions" for the cessation of U.S. bombardments on North Viet Nam. He made it plain that the halt was wholly unconditional and that if the U.S. did not want to be attacked, it should immediately end its aggression and unconditionally withdraw from South Viet Nam all U.S. and satellite troops.

# PLAF WELL CO-ORDINATED WIDESPREAD ONSETS IN SOUTH VIET NAM SINCE FEBRUARY 23

AS was announced in our last issue, since the night of February 22, the PLAF have been attacking hundreds of targets — enemy military and administrative organs in dozens of cities and towns (at least 29 provincial capitals) military and logistic bases, airfields, naval bases and enemy positions (division and brigade HQs, regiment and battalion, military sectors and sub-sectors CPs. Thus in the first four days the PLAF were active in 37 out of 44 provinces in South Viet Nam.

According to *Giai Phong* Press Agency, up to date, substantial results have been achieved by the patriots in important strategic areas such as Saigon, Bien Hoa, My Tho, Da Nang, Quang Ngai and the coastal plains of Central and South Central Viet Nam and the Western High Plateaux....

### SAIGON, BIEN HOA, MY THO AREAS

ON the night of February 22 and on February 23, PLAF infantry units rushed enemy posts in 9th District of **Saigon**, PLAF gunners pounded key organs in the 1st 2nd and 3rd districts. The *HQ of the Navy*, the *infantry*, the "*Marines*" and the *police* were hit. The patriots' artillery continued to shell enemy positions in Saigon the next day.

In the periphery of the city, 12km to the South south east, **Nha Be** fuel depot and logistic base, came under fire and the U.S. big logistic base of **Long Binh** (20km north east of Saigon) was assaulted by PLAF infantry. **Bien Hoa** town further north of Long Binh and its air base, one of the biggest of its kind in South Viet Nam, was stormed by PLAF infantry and artillery as well as the C.P. of a puppet para battalion.

North west of Saigon, on Feb. 25, a daring attack was made by the patriots against the base of U.S. *Infantry Division* 25 at **Cu Chi** the enemy defence line was broken, the base overrun and heavy losses in GI lives and materials inflicted on it. According to the Western press, a dozen *Chinook*, big choppers, costing one million dollars each, were destroyed by explosives.

West, north west of the South Viet Nam capital, in **Ben Nghia** province a sub-sector CP and a military post were raided and 20 were three other sub - sector CPs lying between 18 and 30km southwest of Saigon, in **Long An** province. On the waterways near Saigon six warships and cargoships were ambushed by the patriots.

In the outer perimeter of Saigon, the PLAF brilliantly carried the day in many engagements.

At **Dau Tieng**, 64km northwest of Saigon, on the night of Feb. 22, the PLAF, after a short engagement, overran the *H.Q. of Brigade* 3, *U.S. Infantry Division* 25 and intercepted rescue parties: 800 GIs were killed or wounded. Meanwhile, 6km to the east southeast of the capital at **Ben Tranh**, a U.S. mixed battalion was blasted to pieces, after one-hour battle with 500 GIs put out of action and big quantities of war material and weapons captured, 12 cannons and mortars destroyed. Less than 48 hours later, another U.S. mixed battalion coming th previous day to fill the vacuum at Ben Thanh was also wiped out: 7 heavy guns and mortars were destroyed and 2 choppers downed.

In **Tay Ninh** province, 55 km northwest of Saigon, U.S. camp at **Tra Cao** was assaulted on the night of Feb. 22: its CP and an American battalion was wiped out, 3 heavy mortars, 6 blockhouses and 20 barracks destroyed. Meanwhile, in 2 other localities nearby, 2 U.S. companies and 1 puppet company were decimated, suffering 300 casualties.

On Feb. 23, at least 14 other positions in the same province were attacked. In 2 localities lying at 14 and 15 km Southeast of the provincial capital, two puppet para battalions were badly mauled. 5 ships were sunk on the Eastern Vam Co river including 2 ships, each carrying 100 men on board. A big fire broke out when the patriots' artillery plastered **Trang Lon** (northwest of the city), base of a brigade of Infantry Division 25 and another brigade of U.S. First Air Mobile Division: 5 helicopters destroyed. On the same day, 18 aircraft were grounded in that province.

At **Lai Khe**, 52km north of Saigon, the base of *U.S. Infantry Division* 1 was shelled on the night of Feb. 24 as well as the *HQ of U.S. First Air Mobile division* at **Phuoc Vinh** 18 km further to the east northeast (Feb. 23).

Further north, on Feb. 23 in **Binh Long** province the PLAF bombarded Binh Long military sector CP, the airfield and many enemy positions at **Hon Quan**, provincial capital (95 Km from Saigon). In intercepting an enemy rescue party, the PLAF wiped out an American company, destroyed 4 vehicles and captured 2 others including a tank.

Near the Cambodian border, the **Loc Ninh** sub-sector CP and many enemy posts nearby were stormed the same day as well as a U.S. position at **Can Le**, 10km from Saigon.

**Phuoc Binh**, provincial capital, and **Phuoc Long** sector CP, 117 Km north northeast of Saigon were assaulted by the PLAF on February 23. The airfield, puppet administrative and military offices also came under attack. Many enemy troops were killed or wounded.

62 Km east - northeast of Saigon, in **Long Khanh** province, **Xuan Loc** provincial capital was rushed on Feb.23.

Southeast, in **Phuoc Tuy** province, many targets in **Baria** provincial capital, 60km from Saigon, were struck on the same day as well as **Vung Tau** town and two other district capitals. A puppet company was wiped out at Baria.

40 Km South west of Saigon, at Tan An provincial capital, the HQ of Brigade U.S. Infanfry Division 9 came under PLAF attack on Feb. 23. Many enemy positions in the province met the same fate.

In **My Tho** province on the left bank of the Mekong river, the PLAF also were considerably succesful. In the provincial capital 60 Km southwest of Saigon, on Feb. 23, they assaulted the *HQ of puppet Infantry Division* 7, the military sector CP the military training centre and other offices of the puppet administration, causing 200 enemy casualties.

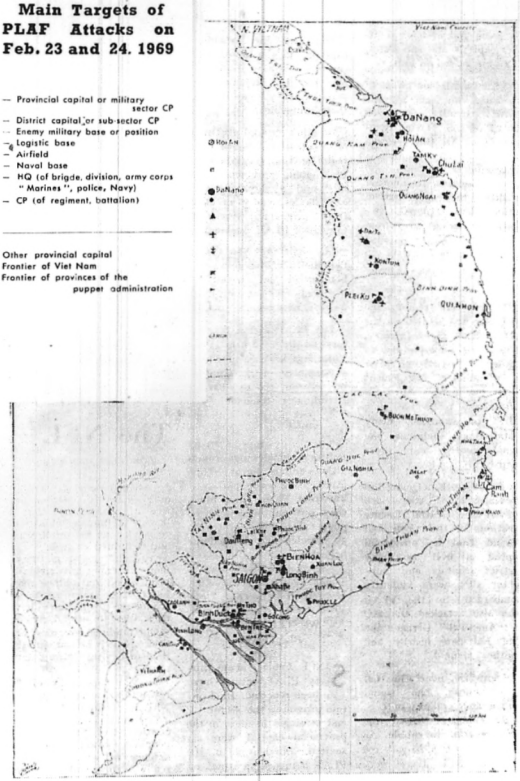
Meanwhile, 6 Km further west, the **Binh Duc** *HQ of U.S. Infantry Division* 9 and **Dong Tam** airfield was set afire by a PLAF shelling. The following days, the same base, the most important in the Mekong delta, was many times bombarded by the PLAF. A puppet regiment CP and 3 other positions and two sub-sector CPs in the same province were assailed.

In the neighbouring province of **Go Cong**, the provincial capital, 60 km south of Saigon, was also assaulted on Feb. 23.

In total, in the Saigon, Bien Hoa, My Tho region, reports filed in up to Thursday 27 listed 9 provincial

*(Continued page 7)*

**Main Targets of PLAF Attacks on Feb. 23 and 24. 1969**

— Provincial capital or military sector CP
— District capital or sub-sector CP
— Enemy military base or position
— Logistic base
— Airfield
— Naval base
— HQ (of brigde, division, army corps "Marines", police, Navy)
— CP (of regiment, battalion)

Other provincial capital
Frontier of Viet Nam
Frontier of provinces of the puppet administration